

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION  
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

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**CALIFORNIA CODE ADOPTION  
Meeting Notes  
B Occupancy Workgroup  
October 28, 2005 9:30  
LA Department of Building Safety**

**ATTENDEES:**
**Facilitator:**

Paul Armstrong, Bureau Veritas

**Committee or Group Members Present:**

Daniel Bak, MD Fire Safety  
Laura Blaul, Orange County Fire  
Pat Cockrum, Pottorff – AMCA  
Dave Dodge, Won-Door  
Steve Ikkanda, LA Dept of Building & Safety  
Christina Jamison, Ventura County Fire  
Ken Kraus, LA City Fire  
Ian MacDonald, City of Oragne Fire  
Rick Thronberry, The Code Consortium, Inc.  
Stuart Tom, CalBO/Glendale Building Dept  
John Traw, Traw Associates Consulting

**Guests Present to Assist:**

Stan Nishimura, Bldg Standards Commission  
Leslie Haberek, ICC

**STAKEHOLDERS IN AUDIENCE:**

John Haberek, LA County Fire

**DOCUMENT HANDOUTS:**

1. Initial Statement of Reasons – form and instructions; Express Terms Format and Guidelines; Notice Review Check List (Stan)
2. Article: The IBC from a UBC Perspective (Rick Thronberry)
3. IBC Fire Safety Provisions – Potential Impact on Future CA Fire Losses – paper (Thornberry)
4. Height/Area worksheet (Thornberry)
5. How to Participate in the Rulemaking Process; Economic Impact Statement Form (Leslie)
6. 2006 IBC Amendment Proposals (Thornberry)

**AGENDA:**

1. Review code change proposals
2. Discuss final steps - input from Stan and Leslie
3. Complete workgroup assignment

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## DISCUSSION/COMMENTS:

- Stan Nishimura facilitated a discussion on the BSC process and distributed several forms which he had completed with our work to date. He made several formatting and section recommendations and suggested we proceed with completion of the Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR) rather than the 9-point criteria as the former must be submitted with the Express Terms and the latter to the BSC following acceptance by the SFM.
- The five amendments were reviewed and the ISOR drafted for each:
  - The need to amend the height & area provisions was again discussed and a decision made to proceed.
  - Rick Thornberry pointed out a “glitch” in the amendments and they were revised to allow the increase for road frontage in addition to sprinklers.
  - Stan suggested grouping the three amendments for height & area and justifying them together.
  - The location for the two ventilation amendments was discussed. Stan stated that, whenever possible, we should attempt to maintain the philosophy of the model codes in where provisions are located (helps the end user), e.g., if ICC moved a provision from the building to the mechanical code, the amendment should be made to the mechanical code rather than moving the entire provision back to the building code. He also explained his understanding of the IBC philosophy (as told by ICC):

Chpts 1 – 3	General
Chpts 4 – 10	Fire/Panic Safety
Chpts 11 – 15	General Construction
Chpts 16 – 26	Structural and Materials
Chpts 27 +	Miscellaneous
  - Our proposed amendment to the IBC to require sources of ignition to be 18” above the ground where flammable vapors are expected to be present was *finally* located in the IMC 304.3. As that code is not proposed for adoption, amendment to the UPC was considered but may be difficult to find. It was decided to add the requirement to the IBC Chapter 4 as best fit. We will make it Section 4 XX rather than identifying a subsection that is not relevant.
  - Justification for maintaining the 6 air changes per hour for use of Class I, II and III-A liquids was discussed...need to check UBC Handbook for justification.\* Also, not sure it appeared in SBCCI or BOCA but was definitely in UBC for some time. The amendment may fit better in IFC than IBC due to change in philosophy...need to find location.
- Form 399 – Economic Impact Statement – was reviewed and a decision made to ask the Core Group if completion is necessary at this point. The form goes to Dept of Finance for signature prior to submission of the packages to the BSC.

Special thanks to Stan and Leslie for attending! Their assistance was invaluable! Stan did say he would make himself available to other workgroups at their request (not sure he wanted that in the minutes).

## ACTION ITEMS (FOLLOW UP) AND RESPONSIBLES:

1. Complete ISOR – Laura Blaul
2. Reevaluate code/section numbers for ventilation proposals; revise Express Terms
3. Research questions marked with \* for discussion at next meeting (include in ISOR)
4. Schedule next meeting to address new proposals and complete 9-point criteria

## NEXT MEETING:

To be determined